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Karin Brownlee, Secretary Sam Brownback, Governor

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KDOL looks to continued improvements in services and job growth

TOPEKA, Kan. – As Labor Day approaches, the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) anticipates continued improvements in job growth and agency services for Kansas customers.

Looking at percent job growth compared with other states and territories, Kansas shows significant improvement. In July Kansas ranked 18th in over-the-year job growth, which is dramatically different from consistent rankings near the bottom of the country coming out of 2010 and moving into 2011.

Monthly Labor Reports continue to show private sector job growth for the state above 2011 numbers. As of July 2012, Kansas has gained 22,100 private sector jobs since July 2011.

"This steady job growth indicates the policies of Governor Sam Brownback's administration are making a positive impact on our economy," said Labor Secretary Karin Brownlee.

As Kansas veterans return home after their tours of duty overseas, KDOL is ready to assist in their job search with a new online jobs resource. Skills, Education and Resources for Veteran Employment, **KanSERVE**, allows veterans to find jobs and training specific to their skill set using only their Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) code. This service can be found at klic.dol.ks.gov.

"This is a rich resource for our veterans. Job openings related to the veteran's military experience are given complete with employer contact information. Should the veteran need more training, that information is also provided. We are hopeful this will speed veterans' pursuits of meaningful employment," Brownlee said.

KDOL wants to emphasize its efforts to improve customer service to Kansans. The contact center is fielding calls in a timely manner and meeting the needs of unemployed or injured Kansas workers. This is being done after cutting costs by about 35 percent in one year's time; all while receiving better reviews on work quality than in years past.

"This is a great model for those who say government cannot cut budgets and still provide needed services. We have done this and will continue to keep one eye on our customers and the other on the bottom line," added Brownlee.

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